

Mr. President, there is only one other woman in history that comes anywhere near Rose Kennedy, in my memory or in my view. That is the mother of Napoleon, Madam Le Mere. She ruled the known world at the time, most of Europe and the countries there. And she, herself, gave her imprimatur to all kings and queens and rulers around Europe.

I send all my sympathy to Senator KENNEDY.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The legislative clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCERN OVER MEXICAN DEBT

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I would like to rise to say a few words about the Mexican debt situation and about our relationship with Mexico. I have been very troubled that our leadership has agreed to support this loan guarantee package with Mexico without further analysis.

There are two things that give me great trouble, and as a member of the Finance Committee I will be asking some very hard questions. First of all, why can we not get this package collateralized? Why can it not be attached either to the Mexican oil resources or to some other collateral, because I am afraid the American people may not get their money back.

Many who are advocating this are going around saying it will not cost us anything. But I have been in this body since 1978, and the House since 1975, and I have heard this again and again, and the U.S. taxpayers frequently end up paying the bill.

The second thing that troubles me a great deal is the Chile example. Economists tell me that the example of what happened in Chile in the early 1980's is almost perfectly analogous to what is happening in Mexico. For example, in Chile in the early 1980's they had a similar economic crisis where their money had been devalued and Chile was unable to get any assistance from the United States at that time because General Pinochet, the dictator, was not approved by the United States and the United States had cut off all aid and even economic relations with Chile so Chile had nowhere to turn.

Under General Pinochet's leadership Chile made economic reforms. They tightened their belt, they went through the steps necessary to restore their economic health internally, and today Chile is one of the most prosperous and booming countries in the world. Indeed, Chile is emerging like one of the supereconomies that we have seen emerge in Asia. Chile is the first such supereconomy of South America. And

Chile now seeks to join in a trade agreement with the United States. Its businesses are competing around the world.

If we roll history back and imagine that in the early 1980's Chile had been a democracy and we had been giving aid to Chile, we would have given Chile a series of loan guarantees and aid and Chile would not have made the necessary economic reforms. And Chile would probably still be a struggling Third World country today.

So I say the same is true with Mexico at this time, 1995. Mexico has not taken many of the strong measures necessary. I had great hopes for the last Salinas government. It seemed, as it got toward the end of that time, Mexico, and the PRC, in wanting to win the election, took softer and softer economic policies, devaluing, trying to create artificial wealth, printing money, and doing all the things they are not supposed to do in terms of sound economic decisions.

Now should the American taxpayers be asked to pay for that? Once again we are in one of these circumstances where a lot of aid would be going to some of our large bond funds and banks in the United States. Mutual bond fund types who bought a lot of the Mexican paper would be bailed out. We would be bailing out a lot of our own mutual bond funds, banks and others.

We are also bailing out the Mexican politicians who did not make the right decisions and the hard decisions, who did not tell their people the truth in their speeches as they went about Mexico. But the worst part of the whole thing is, aside from bailing out private groups who maybe do not deserve it, the worst of all is that we may well be delaying real reform in Mexico. Would it not be better to let 6 months or 1 year pass and observe that Mexico is taking some of those tough economic measures? Why do we have to act on this so quickly?

I think Mexico should be required to make internal economic reforms and also to collateralize the loan guarantee. The Mexicans refuse to sell their publicly owned oil fields and oil industry, which was nationalized at one point. It is a socialistic endeavor and a very unhealthy one in terms of what it produces for Mexico. Here we are, a free-enterprise country, giving a noncollateralized guarantee to Mexico while not requiring them to sell their oil industry. The economists tell me if they were willing to privatize their oil industry, they could have far in excess of the billions of dollars they are seeking from the United States.

So in closing I would like to say, let us call this what it is. It is a bailout. There are many arguments that are made—the specter of refugees coming across the border, et cetera, et cetera. But we are going to have the same problem again in 2 or 3 years unless Mexico makes the economic reforms that are necessary. Let us look at the Chile example, the example of a coun-

try that made the reforms, did not get any aid from anybody, and is one of the healthiest countries in the world today.

In terms of foreign aid, I have observed over the years the countries that have developed the most economically in the world have been those that have not received economic aid from the United States—with one or two exceptions. All the tigers of the Far East did not receive aid packages from the United States. They did it themselves. Many of the countries that we have consistently given foreign aid to have faltered, have not made internal decisions, have expected a handout, and have remained very, very poor. So we have not done these poor people a favor. As Chile, when they needed help and they were looking for international grants and aid—nobody gave it to them. They have become the most prosperous country in South America as a result of it.

So I think there is something to be learned here. I know it may sound harsh. Maybe it sounds cold and calculating. But if we really want to help people, sometimes we should require they make reforms before we give them aid, or we should try to give them trade rather than aid. Also, I point out the huge budgetary deficit we have in our own country and the number of people we have in need of some kind of small business assistance here within the United States.

So, I have made it known to the leadership I was disappointed that both sides, both the President and Republican and Democratic leadership, endorsed this plan without further consulting and assessing the feelings of other Members of the Congress. As a member of the Finance Committee, I do not feel obligated to support this until I see much more collateralization, until I see much more performance on the part of the Mexicans in terms of getting their house in order, and until I see the American taxpayers reassured.

Recently I have been in on some debates about privatizing public broadcasting in this country, and I have been criticized for things I have never said. I find that privatizing sounds bad to some people inside the beltway. The fact of the matter is, there are ways that public television can make a great deal of money through programming rights, through working with regional communications companies, and through working with other communications companies. In terms of marketing the product that they have, they can make a lot of money and they can save the taxpayers money. But in the whole debate the taxpayer is almost forgotten.

So it is with the Mexican debt issue. Let us think about the taxpayers of this country as we consider the Mexican debt situation.

Mr. President, I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator withhold that?

Mr. PRESSLER. Yes.

IS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? YOU BE THE JUDGE OF THAT

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, the incredibly enormous Federal debt is a lot like television's well-known energizer bunny—it keeps going and going—at the expense, of course, of the American taxpayer.

Many politicians talk a good game—when they are back home—about bringing Federal deficits and the Federal debt under control. But so many of these same politicians regularly voted in support of bloated spending bills during the 103d Congress, which perhaps is a primary factor in the new configuration of U.S. Senators.

This is a rather distressing fact as the 104th Congress gets down to business. As of Friday, January 20, 1994, the Federal debt stood—down to the penny—at exactly \$4,796,537,934,595.60, or \$18,207.74 per person.

Mr. President, it is important that all of us monitor, closely and constantly the incredible cost of merely paying the interest on this debt. Last year, the interest on the Federal debt totaled \$190 billion.

Mr. President, my hope is that the 104th Congress can bring under control the outrageous spending that created this outrageous debt. If the party now controlling both Houses of Congress, as a result of the November elections last year, does not do a better job of getting a handle on this enormous debt, the American people are not likely to overlook it in 1996.

A TRIBUTE TO SEATTLE'S BRAVE FIREFIGHTERS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, 2 weeks ago, four Seattle firefighters died in the line of duty: Lt. Walter Kilgore, Lt. Gregory Shoemaker, and firefighters Randall Terlicker and James Brown. They are heroes in the truest sense of the word. Jon Gillis, president of the Seattle Firefighters Union, said these four men gave their lives for the noblest of causes, for the safety and protection of others. I join him in that sentiment.

In the midst of this tragedy, the community came together to pay homage to these fallen firefighters. But the pain of this loss extended beyond Seattle: More than 10,000 firefighters, police officers, paramedics, and citizens from across North America and from as far away as Australia, came to Seattle to honor these firefighters.

Too often, we fail to say thank you to these brave men and women who serve us as firefighters, police officers, and members of the Armed Forces. The professions they have chosen are full of risk. Seattle Mayor Norm Rice recently reminded us these guardians of our society play a special role, and, tragically, sometimes pay the ultimate

price for their service. They are extraordinary individuals and make a real difference in our lives and in our communities. They are quiet heroes who deserve our respect, our admiration, and our gratitude.

Their families also share the hardships and pain that come along with these jobs. I know because one of my brothers is a firefighter in Tacoma, WA, and I can tell you the danger inherent in his job is felt by his immediate and extended family. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank the men and women, and their families, who dedicate their lives to protecting our communities.

I am deeply saddened by the death of these four firefighters, and want to pay tribute to the sacrifice these extraordinary individuals have made. Lt. Walter Kilgore, Lt. Gregory Shoemaker, and firefighters Randall Terlicker and James Brown truly represent what is best about America.

ON THE LIFE OF MARIYAMA DOROTHY COLE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, it is my great pleasure to take this opportunity to remark on the life of Mariyama Dorothy Cole, who passed away this month.

Mariyama, a resident of Windsor, was an inspiration and joy to her family and friends. She was Marie to all who knew her. Marie was a girl of unique and distinctive beauty, but it was her inner strength and serenity that were most remarkable.

To understand what made Marie a person so deserving of recognition one must know the awesome changes Marie helped inspire and the incredible perseverance she demonstrated on a daily basis.

Today, because of Marie, children in the State of Connecticut who have complex health care needs of disabilities are better able to live at home with their families. Mariyama and her family challenged existing policies that were contrary to family unification. She was instrumental in the passage of several pieces of legislation that will foster better services for families and children. She was the first child with special needs to attend totally inclusive classes in her hometown high school.

Throughout her 18 years of life, Marie gave more love and educated more people than most individuals do in two lifetimes. Mariyama's determination was mighty; her courage and fortitude fierce; her presence impossible to ignore. She asked for nothing and yet taught her family and friends how to give and share with others the love that overflowed from her.

Marie has left an indelible mark on my State. Thousands of children have already benefitted from Marie's life, and many more will benefit from her legacy.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY FOR SENATOR PATRICK LEAHY

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I would like to inform my colleagues that Senator LEAHY was not present for votes Thursday evening due to a family medical emergency. On behalf of the Senate, I extend our prayers to his entire family and our hopes that he will be able to resume his official duties very soon.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Mr. PELL. Mr. President, this year marks the 30 year anniversary of the establishment of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities. In 1965 Senator Jacob Javits and I sponsored this legislation to foster the development of excellence in American art and culture. After a long and distinguished history of nurturing the arts in our Nation, the National Endowment for the Arts has in recent years become the subject of some controversy concerning the funding of certain works which many of our citizens consider offensive. In light of this, I would like to explain why I believe that the National Endowment for the Arts has been a tremendous boon to our Nation and should continue as a viable entity for the support of American culture.

Our Nation's Arts Endowment provides critical assistance for cultural works and presentations in music, theater, literature, dance, design arts, and folk arts around the country. This year, in my own State of Rhode Island, the Endowment provided funds to renovate painting and sculpture facilities in the Museum of Art at the Rhode Island School of Design, supported an after-school arts education program for minority neighborhood youth in the fourth and fifth grades, and funded the Trinity Repertory Theater, one of the Nation's premier theaters. In other areas, the NEA funded a Music in our Schools program in Providence and aided a folk arts apprenticeship program. Without this funding, Mr. President, many of these programs would simply not exist. In this context, I ask unanimous consent that these editorials from the Providence Journal and others from around the country in support of the National Endowment be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Providence Journal, Jan. 15, 1995]

WE NEED THE NEA

The Newt Congress has cast a cold eye on the National Endowment for the Arts, the federal agency that provides grants to arts organizations and individual artists.

As federal budget items go, the NEA is no behemoth. Its allotment this year is \$167.4 million, nearly \$3 million less than the endowment had to work with a year ago, and an annual outlay of roughly 65 cents for every man, woman and child in America. (When was the last time you could get into